- 17. (currently amended) The method of Claim § 16 further including the step of: releasably connecting the lancet to the outer shaft.
- 18. (previously presented) The method of Claim 8 further including the step of: releasably connecting an end cap to the housing.
- 19. (currently amended) The method of Claim 8 wherein the member is selectively held in the armed position or released from the armed position by a switch, such switch is selectively engaging or disengaging a member, the member is being held in the armed position and the lancet is in the withdrawn position when the switch engages the member and the member and lancet being free to move from the armed and withdrawn positions when the switch is disengaged from the member.
- 20. (cancelled)
- 21. (currently amended) The method of Claim 8 wherein the step of position either the member or the <u>permanent</u> magnetic element to an armed position wherein the magnetic forces from the <u>permanent</u> magnetic element affecting the member involves moving an arming member which mechanically moves the a collar from the steady state position to the armed position.
- 22. (previously presented) The method of Claim 21 further including the step of: holding the arming member to the housing by at least one spring.

## Remarks

The Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider this response to be in compliance with the October 19, 2006 notice.

## **Authorization**

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for this Reply, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-3791.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Director is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 50-3791.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 12/19/06

Heather A. Kartsounes Registration No. 53,732

Attorney for Applicants

## **Privacy Act Statement**

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

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- 2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
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- 6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
- 7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
- 8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
- A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.